

Things Fall Apart – Vocabulary

PART ONE

flourish (verb) – to be strong and healthy or to grow well

accolade (noun) – public expression of high praise and esteem for somebody

stoic (noun; adj) – somebody who appears unaffected by emotions; tending to remain unemotional

clout (noun) – the power to influence things; a blow with the hand or fist

desecrate (verb) – to damage something sacred

discord (noun) – disagreement or strife between people, things or situations

atone (verb) – to make reparation or compensation for a sin or mistake

censure (noun) – severe criticism, official expression of disapproval

inadvertent (adj) – done unintentionally or without thinking

exacting (adj) – requiring strict attention to detail, hard work

PART TWO AND THREE

harbinger (noun) – somebody or something that anticipates a future event

zealot (noun) – somebody who shows excessive enthusiasm; a religious extremist

bolster (verb) – to strengthen something thorough support or encouragement

vie (verb) – to strive for superiority or compete with someone for something

cleave (verb) – to split along a plane of natural weakness

ensconce (verb) – to make comfortably established as if to stay a long time

pacification (noun) – the process of bringing peace by putting an end to conflict (often through use of military force)

degeneration (noun) – process of becoming physically, morally, or mentally worse

impotent (adj) – without strength or power to do anything effective or helpful

abomination (noun) – object of intense disapproval; something immoral, disgusting, shameful